COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY

Petition of Dig Safe Systems, Inc. for Implementation of 811 as the Abbreviated Dialing Code for Providing Notification of Excavation Activities to Underground Facilities Operators Within Massachusetts

Docket No. 05-82

JOINT STATUS REPORT

As directed by the Hearing Officer's ruling of August 14, 2006, Dig safe, Inc. ("Dig Safe") and Verizon New England, Inc d/b/a/ Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon MA") hereby report the status of implementation of 811 service in Massachusetts.

1. As previously noted in the parties' Joint Status Report of July 31, 2006, a second 811 Summit among telecommunications carriers and one call centers such as Dig Safe occurred on August 2, 2006 in Atlanta. In addition to clarifying roles and responsibilities associated with 811 service, the attendees discussed a number of implementation issues including cost recovery. Representatives from the telecommunications industry covered various cost considerations such as modification of methods, procedures and internal systems, network switch provisioning, information technology programming, and network routing and ongoing maintenance. All parties agreed that it would be prudent to seek expedient resolution of any cost recovery issues among their respective organizations before looking to state regulatory commissions to do so. To that end, Verizon is in the process of developing proposed cost recovery terms for implementation of 811 service for review by the individual call centers. Verizon

expects that such terms will be available in September and will be reviewed by the one call centers, including Dig Safe in the September/October timeframe.

- 2. As Dig Safe and Verizon MA have previously stated, the only issue that remains to be resolved is the issue of cost recovery. In light of the efforts to seek an overall understanding on this issue nationally, it would be most efficient for the Department to permit the parties additional time to pursue those efforts. This will ensure that the parties are not briefing this issue, and the Department need not rule on it, while the parties continue to work toward a voluntary resolution. Verizon MA and Dig Safe remain committed to implementing 811 service in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission timeline of April 2007 so that there is no immediate need for the Department to move forward at this time in this proceeding.
- 3. Accordingly, Dig Safe and Verizon MA respectfully request that the Department permit additional time and allow them to report back to the Department by October 31, 2006 on the cost recovery issue. This would still provide the parties and the Department approximately six months to resolve any outstanding cost issues before the April 2007 implementation date.

Respectfully submitted,

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